

Listing of Claims

1-92. (cancelled).

93. (**currently amended**) An antibody or fragment thereof which binds specifically to an epitope on a BB' loop of an osteoprotegerin binding protein of SEQ ID NO:39, wherein the antibody or fragment thereof inhibits osteoclast formation.

94. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is a monoclonal antibody.

95. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is a recombinant antibody.

96. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is a chimeric or CDR-grafted antibody.

97. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is a human antibody.

98. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which inhibits bone resorption.

99. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is raised against a peptide comprising a BB' loop region.

100. (**previously presented**) A composition comprising the antibody of Claim 93 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, carrier, solubilizer, emulsifier, preservative and/or adjuvant.

101. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which is produced by expression of a nucleic acid encoding the antibody or fragment in a transformed or transfected host cell.

102. (**previously presented**) The antibody of Claim 93 which binds to the peptide of SEQ ID NO:32.

103. (**currently amended**) An antibody or fragment thereof which binds specifically to an epitope on an EF loop of an osteoprotegerin binding protein of SEQ ID NO:39.